GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:491
ANSWERED ON:18.11.2016
Support to Training and Employment Programme for Women
Chandrakasi Shri M.

Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is implementing "Support to Training and Employment Programme for Women (STEP) scheme" to provide skills and knowledge to women and if so, the salient features thereof;
(b) the details of project proposals submitted by eligible institutions/ organisations including NGOs under the said scheme along with the projects sanctioned and grant-in-aid given thereunder during each of the last three years and the current year, State/UT-wise;
(c) the number of beneficiaries covered under the scheme during the said period, State/UT-wise;
(d) whether adequate information and publicity is given about the scheme, if so, details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor along with the corrective measures taken thereon; and
(e) the further measures taken for effective implementation and to expand the reach of the scheme and strengthen it to provide skills and knowledge to women?

Answer

MINISTER OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT
(SHRIMATI MANEKA SANJAY GANDHI)

(a): The Ministry has been administering 'Support to Training and Employment Programme for Women (STEP) Scheme' since 1986-87 as a 'Central Sector Scheme'. The STEP Scheme aims to provide skills that enhances employability to women and to provide competencies and skill that enable women to become self-employed/ entrepreneurs. The Scheme is intended to benefit women who are in the age group of 16 years and above. Assistance under the STEP scheme will be available in any sector for imparting skills related to employability and entrepreneurship, including but not limited to the following: Agriculture, Horticulture, Food Processing, Handlooms, Tailoring, Stitching, Embroidery, Zari etc Handicrafts, Computer & IT enabled services along with soft skills and skills for the work place such as spoken English, Gems & Jewellery, Travel & Tourism, Hospitality.

(b) Proposals under the scheme are submitted by eligible institutions/ organizations including NGOs, and as per qualification/eligibility according to guidelines approval/selection of projects are done. State/ UT-wise details of projects sanctioned during the last 3 years and current year is at Annexure-I and funds allocated to the various organizations for the said period is at Annexure II.

(c) Number of beneficiaries State/UT-wise covered under the Scheme during the last three years and current year is at Annexure-III.

(d) Adequate information and publicity is given about the Scheme. Advertisement of the scheme is done through print media and the Ministry's website. All State/UT Governments have also been asked to make wide publicity about the scheme within their jurisdictions.

(e) The guidelines of the scheme are revised regularly to expand the reach of the programme and strengthen the scheme. Latest guidelines was revised in August 2016.
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